

**REMARKS**

Claim 8 has been amended to be in independent form.

Applicants acknowledge the withdrawal of finality and the withdrawal of the rejections in view of Applicants arguments.

**New Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103:**

The rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 relies on the same references as the withdrawn rejection (Tataryan et al. USPN 6,136,130), Popat et al. (USPN 5,662,976) and Black (USPN 6,540,131). The Examiner has not cited any evidence which is responsive to the arguments made in the response dated April 11, 2006. Therefore, Applicant's maintain a showing of *prima facie* obviousness has not been made and claims 1-19 and 22-29 should be allowed.

More particularly, no evidence has been presented to rebut Applicants argument that (1) Tataryan et al. teaches that microperforations do not provide suitable fold lines for printing at column 2, lines 27-35 and (2) the secondary references provide no guidance to the skilled artisan to ignore these teachings of Tataryan et al. and provide a printable substrate in accordance with the present invention. The examples of Tataryan et al. steer clear of using microperforations for the fold line, as discussed previously, and Popat et al. teach the use of microperforations to separate the assembly into sections at column 2, lines 43-67 and at column 3, lines 26-46. The Examiner has characterized these microperforations as suitable for use in a fold line. This is inconsistent with the teachings of Popat et al., which indicates that microperforations can be used in lines of separation. There is no indication microperforations can be used in the fold line.

For example, it is stated in column 3:

"In accordance with the various features which may be included in embodiments of the present invention, the assembly may be divided into individual sections by lines of microperforations which extend through both the backing sheet and the lamination sheet. Each individual section has at least one of the card/lamination sets. Each section may be individually separated along a line of microperforations from the assembly for individual printing in a laser printer, ink jet printer or photocopier."

It is further stated in column 3, lines 40-46:

"The backing sheet may be any of a variety of material, including paper and cardstock. The assembly may be divided into two or more identical sections in its lengthwise or widthwise directions by one or more lines of microperforations. These microperforations may extend through both the sheet of lamination and through the backing sheet."

These individual sections are intended to provide for separation from the assembly. Where a fold line is mentioned, there is no indication that the perforations may be microperforations.

At column 3, lines 34-37 it is stated:

"The lamination member may be symmetrical and have a line of perforations along its line of symmetry. The user is thereby assisted in folding the lamination member about the line of symmetry."

Popat et al. makes no indication that reference to perforations encompasses microperforations, and there is no basis for one skilled in the art to assume these perforations include microperforations since the fold line has a distinct utility from the lines of separation.

Black does not even mention microperforations and there is no basis to assume the technique of using breaks in the fold line would be effective where the fold line is defined by microperforations and not perforations. Assuming one skilled in the art would rely on the teachings of Black to strengthen the lines of microperforations and avoid the disadvantages taught by Tataryan et al., there is no basis for one skilled in the art to assume such a configuration would provide an effective fold line. Therefore, Applicants maintain the combined teachings of the cited references do not render the printed substrate of the present invention obvious.

**Response to Arguments:**

Applicants respectfully submit that they do not argue that Tataryan et al. fails to disclose microperforations. Their position is that Tataryan fails to disclose microperforations used in a fold line. Similarly, Applicants maintain that Popat et al. does not indicate the perforations used in fold lines can comprise microperforations. The text referred to by the Examiner provides a separate definition for microperforations within the Popat et al. disclosure. There is no indication that Popat et al. considers reference to "perforations" to

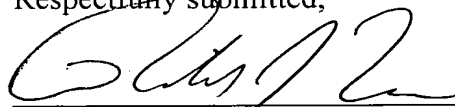
encompass such microperforations. If this was their intention, the separate definition for microperforations would be pointless.

The Black et al. reference does not mention microperforations and the Examiner has not provided any basis for one skilled in the art to rely on the teachings therein when forming a line comprised of microperforations. The relevance of the teachings within Black to forming lines of microperforations would only be apparent to one skilled in the art viewing the present invention in hindsight.

Based on the above remarks, withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the present claims are earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 14-0225.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attorney Docket No.: 9059.00 (NCRCO-0096-X)

Date: July 20, 2006